



## Words From The Admin



### Changes at RWA

There have been a few recent changes to the Royal West Academy community. Mr. Vamvakas, who was away for the first couple of months of the year on leave, is now back in the classroom. Additionally, Ms. C. Holloway returned from maternity leave at the end of February. We would also like to welcome a new Addictions Counsellor to our school, Ms. Crist, who will be at RWA two days per week. Mr. Yang was hired in late November to work as an Athletic Coordinator at our school and has been pivotal in helping navigate, among other things, Covid protocol for ECAs and Open Gym at lunch.

### Online Learning

The administration would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their patience and flexibility during the online learning period in early January. Given the circumstances, the RWA community made it through those seven school days thanks to the kindness and resiliency of all involved.

### Tyndale Week

Since the 1980s, RWA has held an annual Tyndale Week raising funds for Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre

in Little Burgundy. The week of December 6 was packed with action each day: fundraising, toy drive, and food baskets.

Homerooms ran fundraisers ranging from raffles to movie screenings, and from photo booths to candy-grams. A special shout out to Ms. Chronopoulos and Mr. Rafael, who each took a cream pie to the face for the cause.

Mr. Bateman's Leadership students ran the traditional Penny Wars, a grade level competition, that culminated at lunch on December 10, with some sizeable last-minute contributions ensuring a Secondary III victory.

Between Homeroom fundraisers, Dress Down Day, and Penny Wars, RWA collected a total of \$9929.41 for Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre.

### Toy Drive

Once again, the students of RWA outdid themselves with their generosity in support of the Westmount Park Toy Drive! We are so proud to report that our students were able to donate toys for all the students in Pre-Kindergarten all the way through to Grade 2. Special thanks to Honour Band for the organization efforts and to all those who donated.

### Musical

We would like to offer a tremendous congratulations to all those involved with Spelling Bee. A lot of hours, effort, and manpower go into a production of this nature, and we are grateful to all those who volunteered and contributed. The audience was regaled with song, dance, and humour. All those privileged to see the musical were blown away by the talent and commitment of the cast. Well done!

### Food Drive for John Grant

Non-perishable items were collected by homeroom for John Grant High School families in need.



Mme Moreau's Homeroom 108 won a pizza lunch as a reward for gathering the greatest number of non-perishable items (231) for our food baskets.



### Secondary V CEGEP Assembly

On January 7, the Guidance team (Ms. Wineberg and Mr. DuMond) led a virtual presentation for Secondary V students on how to apply to CEGEP. In the presentation they covered all topics related to CEGEP applications, including timelines, application details and preparation, and what needs to be included with the applications along with many other topics. At the end they opened it up to a general Q & A to all the students.

### International Holocaust Remembrance Day

For the mindful minute on January 27, Secondary V student James Alloul read a tribute he composed to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day. James spoke of the atrocities of the Holocaust and the generational trauma that ensued. He asked that RWA honour the people who were killed by keeping their memories alive and standing up to antisemitism.

### Action Against Islamophobia

January 29 marked the 5th anniversary of the Quebec City Mosque Attack. On January 28, RWA community members were invited to participate in the Green Square Campaign for Action Against Islamophobia. Additionally, homerooms experienced a video that paid tribute to the victims of the mosque attack.

### Music Between Classes

Since the start of the pandemic, RWA has been playing music between periods 5 and 6. With the goal of raising morale, Student Life Association students were inspired to use music to create a positive atmosphere. Now popular with students and staff alike, anyone can request a song!

### Ski trips

With restrictions lifting, the RWA Outdoor-Ski-Snowboard Club (OSS) was finally able to get outside and play! Although our traditional three-day ski trip is not possible this year, we are taking advantage of hosting shorter day trips. On December 17, 50 Secondary II and III students enjoyed some great early season conditions at Sommet Saint-Sauveur. We are looking forward to our next two outings later this winter.



Ski trip chaperones (from left): Mr. Nemeth, Mr. Rafael, Mr. Zigby, Ms. Partington, Ms. Colannino

### Band Pieces

Although the music department was disappointed to have to cancel their Holiday and Winter concerts, they are excited to announce the implementation of virtual performances. Secondary II and III music classes spent time recording their band pieces to be shared later this month.





## Let it Snow!

In early February, after all the confinements and restrictions, Miss Chronopoulos' Secondary I class took advantage of the beautiful weather and fresh snow by playing outside, laughing with friends, and making fresh snow angels.



body's terrific attitude and our parents' support, has done a tremendous job in promoting and maintaining a culture of safety and concern for the well-being of our RWA community. The GB parents sincerely hope that everyone will continue to do so.

Our next GB meeting is on April 4, 2022, at 7:00 PM (via Teams).

## Wildcat Hats!

By Ms. Marie-Claire O'Neil

Royal West Academy Wildcat hats are still for sale. Please support the 2022 Grads by purchasing one of these limited edition embroidered hats for \$20. See Ms. O'Neil in the New Gym office or Ms. Spencer in the main office to purchase one. Thanks for your support!



## Governing Board Report

By Mr. David Stolow, Governing Board Chair

On December 13, the Governing Board (GB) held a special meeting to approve Royal West Academy's renewal application for its Article 240 (Education Act) status.

Since the beginning of 2022, the GB has held two meetings on January 17 and February 22. The materials discussed during our meetings are available on the RWA website at <http://www.royalwestacademy.com/> under the "Governing Board" tab.

During our meeting on February 22, we discussed the issue of the Québec Government's recently announced decision to, effective March 7, 2022 (i.e., after the RWA spring break), lift the requirement for students to wear masks in classrooms while seated at their desks—the requirement for masks while circulating in classrooms and in common areas will remain in place. The GB parents believe that our school, including our student

# RWA News

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 28–Mar 4	Spring Break
March 7	RWA Foundation meeting @ 7 PM
Mar 14–18	MindPOP Math
March 15	Calculus competition
March 18	Pedagogical Day (afternoon)
March 18	Dance Show
March 21	Home & School meeting @ 7:30 PM
Mar 28–Apr 1	Social Justice Week
March 28–29	Regional Science Fair
Mar 31–Apr 3	Honour Band trip

